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4 December 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Carter

1. I obviously looked stupid at the Executive Committee Meeting this morning when I reported that Mr. Halaby was not going to Moscow and felt even more stupid shortly thereafter when I learned that at the very moment I made the report Halaby was in fact in the headquarters building getting briefed prior to his actual departure.

2. I have investigated to see how all this happened. As best I can piece it together, the gist of it is as follows:

a. On 15 November, after the Director had expressed his concern at the morning meeting, you buzzed me about the Director's desire that Halaby not go to Moscow or, in the alternative, if he was to go anyway that he be given a good security briefing prior to his departure. I told you that I had alerted Bob Bannerman to be prepared to brief Halaby at any time. You said that you would query the Director as to just what he wanted to do about this.

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b. On 18 November [REDACTED] called to say that the Director had decided that he did not wish to prevent Halaby from going to Moscow but he wanted to make sure that he was given a first-rate, wire brush briefing prior to departure and that he carry either a diplomatic or special passport. At my suggestion Hank said that he would ask Mr. Kirkpatrick to call Halaby, and I said that Bob Bannerman would be prepared to give the necessary briefing at any time.

c. On 2 December I called Bob Bannerman to find out what had happened about the Halaby briefing. He advised me that the trip had been cancelled, and on 3 December he advised me as follows: "Per our previous discussions regarding our briefing of Subject on his proposed trip to the Soviet Union, we have been advised by Mr. Halaby's office that he will not be going to the Soviet Union. No

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further action appears necessary." (I later learned that this information came from [REDACTED] on 26 November, at which time it appears that the trip had actually been cancelled.) Some time prior to this, however, when the trip was originally scheduled, the OCR Liaison Office had set up a briefing for Halaby. The Office of Security was not included and did not know that any such arrangements had been made. This briefing was later cancelled. On Friday, 29 November, however, Howard Helford of Halaby's office called the OCR Liaison Office [REDACTED] to say that the trip was on and to arrange for a briefing.

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[REDACTED] called [REDACTED] of the Director's office to advise him that the trip was on and the briefing was to be rescheduled and asked whether the Director, you, or Mr. Kirkpatrick wished to participate in any way. On Monday, 2 December, [REDACTED] had advised him that the Director had seen Halaby on Sunday and that it would not be necessary for any officials from the Office of the Director to participate in the briefing. The briefing was rescheduled for today, 4 December. Again, the Office of Security was not included and did not know of the briefing until I alerted them after the Executive Committee Meeting this morning.

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d. I understand that the defensive briefing was done by [REDACTED] of the CI Branch of SR Division, a very competent employee, that OCI did a substantive briefing, and that the Security Office of OSA debriefed Halaby on some of his sensitive clearances.

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3. The OCR Liaison Office has been advised that, when they have knowledge of any senior Government official going behind the Iron Curtain, it is of interest to the Office of Security and that they should be advised promptly.

L. K. White

DD/S:LKW:sbo

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MY WORK IS SO
SECRET.....I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT I'M DOING!

2 December 1963

Colonel White:

 have
an appointment to see you at 11 a.m. on
Tuesday, 3 December, to discuss partial
expansion of the combined centers in
Western Europe.

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